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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

•	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Antion Commons	09/071,298	OTALA, TAPANI J.				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	James M Hannett	2612				
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	pears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address				
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.1: after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period of a Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tin y within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) day will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from , cause the application to become ABANDONE	nely filed s will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).				
Status						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 D	ecember 1999.					
	action is non-final.					
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is						
closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.						
Disposition of Claims						
4) □ Claim(s) 1-69 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw 5) □ Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) □ Claim(s) 1-68 is/are rejected. 7) □ Claim(s) 69 is/are objected to. 8) □ Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	wn from consideration.					
Application Papers						
9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examine 10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 April 2003 is/are: a) Applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct 11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex	☑ accepted or b)☐ objected to drawing(s) be held in abeyance. Section is required if the drawing(s) is object.	e 37 CFR 1.85(a). jected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).				
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign a) All b) Some * c) None of:  1. Certified copies of the priority document 2. Certified copies of the priority document 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority document application from the International Bureau * See the attached detailed Office action for a list	s have been received. s have been received in Applicati rity documents have been receive u (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	on No ed in this National Stage				
Attachment(s)		·				
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal F 6) Other:					

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#### **DETAILED ACTION**

# Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 12/22/2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. As for the argument that the prior art does not teach the claimed invention. The examiner states that Giza teaches a method of outputting camera-formatted data to a camera interface. Giza teaches that the camera-formatted data corresponds to application-formatted data from an application program such as power point. Giza teaches a method that includes the steps of: Starting an output operation for an application by invoking the print screen command, copying the application –formatted data from an application program to a selected graphics program, forming the camera-formatted data based on the application-formatted data and according to a digital camera format by saving the image data as a JPEG file to be compatible with the Casio OV camera, and outputting the camera-formatted data to a digital camera interface by uploading the files to the Casio QV camera. Giza teaches that image data can be transferred to a camera using a print command in Microsoft Windows. Although invoking the print screen command in Giza does not open a print driver and automatically convert the application-formatted data into camera-formatted data. It teaches the correlation that a print command in an operating system can be initiated in order to convert application-formatted data into camera-formatted data that is output to a camera interface. Giza teaches a process that converts application-formatted data into camera-formatted data by using a manual process that is time consuming. This process is time consuming because several applications need to be opened and data transferred between applications.

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It would have been obvious to any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to automate the process of Giza in order to save computing time by using customized data format conversion software. Giza does not teach a method for automating the above process so that a computer can more easily perform the format conversion process as performed above. However, Petzold teaches in the Microsoft Windows programming guide the use of software code in the form of print or device drivers that will automatically convert application-formatted data into formatted data corresponding to a printer or a device that masquerades as a printer. Because the invention of Giza is related the conversion of application-formatted data into a different format to be output to a device that is connected to the computer, It is viewed by the examiner that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to look to the device driver art since device drivers are software programs that automatically convert application-formatted data into a different-formatted data that is to be output to a device that is connected to a computer.

## Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

- (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 1: Claims 1-7,17-27, 37-43, 54-58, 53, and 68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Giza in view of Petzold.

As for Claim 1, Giza teaches on Slide 1 a method for outputting camera-formatted data to a digital camera interface. Giza teaches that the camera-formatted data corresponds to

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application-formatted data from an application program such as PowerPoint. Giza teaches a method that includes the steps of:

Starting an output operation for an application by invoking the print screen command, Copying the application –formatted data from an application program to a selected graphics program, Forming the camera-formatted data based on the application-formatted data and according to a digital camera format by saving the image data as a JPEG file to be compatible with the Casio QV camera, and outputting the camera-formatted data to a digital camera interface by uploading the files to the Casio QV camera. Giza teaches that image data can be transferred to a camera using a print command in Microsoft Windows. However, The process needs to be performed manually do to the lack of a print driver or automated program code that would convert the application data into the appropriate data format needed for the Casio QV camera.

Giza does not teach an automated method that can be performed by selecting a camera driver corresponding to the digital camera as an output device driver for a print operation, Or the step of printing the application-formatted data from the application program to the selected camera driver.

Petzold teaches that by starting a print operation in an application, a print driver can be selected that corresponds to the printer as an output device driver for a print operation. Petzold teaches that the application-formatted data is then sent or printed from the application program to the selected printer driver. Petzold teaches that this process will form the printer-formatted data based on the application-formatted data and according to a printer format. Petzold further teaches

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that the printer-formatted data is then output from the printer driver to the printer or printer interface.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the printing method of Petzold to incorporate a printer or camera driver for the digital camera of Giza in order to automate the process required to translate application formatted data into digital camera formatted data after a print screen or print operation command is invoked. Therefore, enabling a digital camera to be seen by Microsoft Windows as a device masquerading as a printer.

- 2: As for Claim 2, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 1. Petzold further teaches on Page 789 that device drivers corresponding to a desired printer or device masquerading as a printer can be selected through the use of a dialog box invoked by a print operation in an application program.
- 3: In regards to Claims 3 and 4, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 1. Petzold further teaches on Page 789 that a computer system can have a plurality of printers or devices masquerading as printers. Petzold teaches that only one device can be selected as the default device. Therefore, the camera driver as taught by Giza in view of Petzold in Claim 1 could be selected as the default output device among the plurality of output devices as taught by Petzold.
- 4: As for Claim 5, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 1. Petzold further teaches on Page 784 that application-formatted data is printed to the selected device driver through a graphical device interface module.

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- 5: As for Claim 6, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 5. Petzold teaches on Page 785 that printer-formatted data is output from the device driver to the printer through the graphical device interface module.
- 6: As for Claim 7, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 6. Petzold further teaches in Chapter 15 that application-formatted data comprises graphical device interface commands.
- 7: In regards to Claim 17, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 1. Petzold further teaches on Page 785 that printers or devices masquerading as a printer such as digital cameras as discussed above in Claim 1 can be attached to a computer locally or through a network connection.
- 8: As for Claim 18, Claim 18 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 1.
- 9: As for Claim 19, Claim 19 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 2.
- 10: As for Claim 20, Claim 20 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 3.
- 11: As for Claim 21, Claim 21 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 5.
- 12: As for Claim 22, Claim 22 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 7.
- 13: As for Claim 23, Claim 23 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 1.
- 14: As for Claim 24, Claim 24 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 4.
- 15: As for Claim 25, Claim 25 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 5.
- 16: As for Claim 26, Claim 26 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 6.
- 17: As for Claim 27, Claim 27 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 7.
- 18: As for Claim 54, Claim 54 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 1.
- 19: As for Claim 55, Claim 55 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 4.

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20: As for Claim 56, Claim 56 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 5.

21: As for Claim 57, Claim 57 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 6.

22: As for Claim 58, Claim 58 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 7.

23: As for Claim 68, Claim 68 is rejected for reasons discussed related to Claim 1.

In regards to Claim 37, Giza teaches on Slide 1 a method for outputting camera-formatted data to a digital camera interface. Giza teaches that the camera-formatted data corresponds to application-formatted data from an application program such as PowerPoint. Giza teaches a method that includes the steps of:

Starting a print operation for an application by invoking the print screen command,

Copying the application –formatted data from an application program to a selected graphics

program, Forming the camera-formatted data based on the application-formatted data and

according to a digital camera format by saving the image data as a JPEG file to be compatible

with the Casio QV camera, and outputting the camera-formatted data to a digital camera

interface by uploading the files to the Casio QV camera. Giza teaches that image data can be

transferred to a camera using a print command in Microsoft Windows. However, The process

needs to be performed manually do to the lack of a print driver or automated program code that

would convert the application data into the appropriate data format needed for the Casio QV

camera. Furthermore, it is inherent in the design of the above invention that it would require a

memory including a region for storing executable process steps and a processor for executing the

executable process steps

Giza does not teach an automated method that can be performed by selecting a camera driver corresponding to the digital camera as an output device driver for a print operation, Or the

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step of printing the application-formatted data from the application program to the selected camera driver.

Petzold teaches that by starting a print operation in an application, a print driver can be selected that corresponds to the printer as an output device driver for a print operation. Petzold teaches that the application-formatted data is then sent or printed from the application program to the selected printer driver. Petzold teaches that this process will form the printer-formatted data based on the application-formatted data and according to a printer format. Petzold further teaches that the printer-formatted data is then output from the printer driver to the printer or printer interface.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the printing method of Petzold to incorporate a printer or camera driver for the digital camera of Giza in order to automate the process required to translate application formatted data into digital camera formatted data after a print screen or print operation command is invoked. Therefore, enabling a digital camera to be seen by Microsoft Windows as a device masquerading as a printer.

- As for Claim 38, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 37. Petzold further teaches on Page 789 that device drivers corresponding to a desired printer or device masquerading as a printer can be selected through the use of a dialog box invoked by a print operation in an application program.
- 26: In regards to Claims 39 and 40, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 37. Petzold further teaches on Page 789 that a computer system can have a plurality of printers or devices masquerading as printers. Petzold teaches that only one device

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can be selected as the default device. Therefore, the camera driver as taught by Giza in view of Petzold in Claim 37 could be selected as the default output device among the plurality of output devices as taught by Petzold.

- 27: As for Claim 41, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 37. Petzold further teaches on Page 784 that application-formatted data is printed to the selected device driver through a graphical device interface module.
- As for Claim 42, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 41. Petzold teaches on Page 785 that printer-formatted data is output from the device driver to the printer through the graphical device interface module.
- 29: As for Claim 43, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 42. Petzold further teaches in Chapter 15 that application-formatted data comprises graphical device interface commands.
- 30: In regards to Claim 53, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 37. Petzold Further teaches on Page 785 that printers or devices masquerading as a printer such as digital cameras as discussed above in Claim 37 can be attached to a computer locally or through a network connection.
- 31: Claims 8-11, 28-31, 44-47, and 59-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Giza in view of Petzold in further view of USPN 5,164,831 Kuchta et al.
- 32: As for Claim 8, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 7. Giza teaches that the Casio QV camera can receive a raster image wherein the format for the raster image comprises a JPEG file format. Giza does not discuss a camera having the ability to receive camera-formatted data comprising a raster image and a thumbnail image.

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Kutchta et al teaches in Figure 2B and on Column 2, Lines 20-32 that it is advantageous for a digital camera to have the capability to process camera-formatted data comprised of a raster image and a thumbnail image. Kutchta et al teaches that since thumbnail images are easily and quickly accessed, reviewing and displaying of images are extremely fast.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the digital camera of Giza to store and process both a raster image and a thumbnail image as taught by Kutchta et al in order to allow a user to easily and quickly access, review and display images.

As for Claim 9, Giza in view of Petzold in further view of Kutchta et al teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 8. Giza in view of Petzold teaches the method of forming a JPEG raster image based on the graphical device interface commands.

Giza in view of Petzold does not teach the method of forming the thumbnail image based on the raster image, and formatting and compressing the raster image and thumbnail image according to the digital camera format.

Kutchta et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 53-63 that it is advantageous to form a thumbnail image based on the raster image and to format and compress the raster image and thumbnail image according to a digital camera format.

34: In regards to Claim 10, Giza in view of Petzold in further view of Kutchta et al teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 9. Kutchta et al teaches on Column 4, a format for the raster image, thumbnail image, and for the relational information that relates the thumbnail image to the raster image.

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35: In regards to Claim 11, Giza in view of Petzold in further view of Kutchta et al teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 10.

Giza teaches that the file format for the raster image is a JPEG file. Giza in view of Petzold in further view of Kutchta teaches the method of forming the thumbnail image based on the raster image. Therefore, causing the thumbnail image to be comprised of a JPEG File. Kutchta teaches on Column 4, Lines 52-68 that each thumbnail file occupies a defined area near the beginning of each raster image file. Therefore, comprising the format for disposing the relational information in the thumbnail file.

- 36: As for Claim 28, Claim 28 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 8.
- 37: As for Claim 29, Claim 29 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 9.
- 38: As for Claim 30, Claim 30 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 10.
- 39: As for Claim 31, Claim 31 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 11.
- 40: As for Claim 44, Giza in view of Petzold teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 43. Giza teaches that the Casio QV camera can receive a raster image wherein the format for the raster image comprises a JPEG file format. Giza does not discuss a camera having the ability to receive camera-formatted data comprising a raster image and a thumbnail image.

Kutchta et al teaches in Figure 2B and on Column 2, Lines 20-32 that it is advantageous for a digital camera to have the capability to process camera-formatted data comprised of a raster image and a thumbnail image. Kutchta et al teaches that since thumbnail images are easily and quickly accessed, reviewing and displaying of images are extremely fast.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the digital camera of Giza to store and process both a raster image

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and a thumbnail image as taught by Kutchta et al in order to allow a user to easily and quickly access, review and display images.

41: As for Claim 45, Giza in view of Petzold in further view of Kutchta et al teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 44. Giza in view of Petzold teaches the method of forming a JPEG raster image based on the graphical device interface commands.

Giza in view of Petzold does not teach the method of forming the thumbnail image based on the raster image, and formatting and compressing the raster image and thumbnail image according to the digital camera format.

Kutchta et al teaches on Column 4, Lines 53-63 that it is advantageous to form a thumbnail image based on the raster image and to format and compress the raster image and thumbnail image according to a digital camera format.

- 42: In regards to Claim 46, Giza in view of Petzold in further view of Kutchta et al teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 45. Kutchta et al teaches on Column 4, a format for the raster image, thumbnail image, and for the relational information that relates the thumbnail image to the raster image.
- 43: In regards to Claim 47, Giza in view of Petzold in further view of Kutchta et al teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 46.

Giza teaches that the file format for the raster image is a JPEG file. Giza in view of Petzold in further view of Kutchta teaches the method of forming the thumbnail image based on the raster image. Therefore, causing the thumbnail image to be comprised of a JPEG File. Kutchta teaches on Column 4, Lines 52-68 that each thumbnail file occupies a defined area near

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the beginning of each raster image file. Therefore, comprising the format for disposing the relational information in the thumbnail file.

- 44: As for Claim 59, Claim 59 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 8.
- 45: As for Claim 60, Claim 60 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 9.
- 46: As for Claim 61, Claim 61 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 10.
- 47: As for Claim 62, Claim 62 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 11.
- 48: Claims 12-16, 32-36, 48-52, and 63-67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Giza in view of Petzold in view of USPN 5,164,831 Kuchta et al in further view of USPN 6,275,260 Anderson.
- 49: As for Claim 12, Giza in view of Petzold in further view of Kutchta et al teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 11. Kutchta et al does not specifically discuss a method for naming data for the raster image and for naming the data for the thumbnail image. Anderson teaches on Column 6, Lines 54-67 and in Figure 10A the use of image tags with a text option (810) so that a user can add data to an image file regarding information such as media types, whether the image is a panoramic image, also information regarding the thumbnail image. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the image tag field convention of Anderson to the file format of Giza in view of Petzold in further view of Kutchta et al in order to allow a user to add data to an image file regarding information such as media types, whether the image is a panoramic image, and information regarding the thumbnail image.
- 50: As for Claim 13, Giza in view of Petzold in view of Kutchta et al in further view of Anderson teaches the claimed invention as discussed in claim 12. Anderson further depicts in

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Figure 10A and teaches on Column 8, Lines 41-47 a method wherein a digital camera format comprises a format for storing non-image data.

- Anderson teaches the claimed invention as discussed in claim 13. Anderson further depicts in Figure 10A and teaches on Column 8, Lines 41-47 that the non-image data can be comprised of a time-date stamp (800). Anderson teaches on Column 6, Lines 54-67 that a user can add data to an image file regarding information such as media types or (types of application programs). Anderson further teaches the use of image tags with a text option (810) so that a user can add data to an image file of any user desired text, such as ownership information.
- 52: In regards to Claim 15, Giza in view of Petzold in view of Kutchta et al in further view of Anderson teaches the claimed invention as discussed in claim 13. Anderson Further teaches on Column 6, Lines 3-15 that the non-image information can also include a sound file if a sound clip has been attached to the image file.
- As for Claim 16, Giza in view of Petzold in view of Kutchta et al in further view of Anderson teaches the claimed invention as discussed in claim 15. Anderson Further teaches on Column 1, Lines 42-56 that after a digital camera processor processes and compresses raw image data into JPEG image files, the processor stores the JPEG image files into an internal memory or on an external memory card.
- 54: As for Claim 32, Claim 32 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 12.
- 55: As for Claim 33, Claim 33 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 13.
- 56: As for Claim 34, Claim 34 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 14.

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- As for Claim 35, Giza in view of Petzold in view of Kutchta et al in further view of Anderson teaches the claimed invention as discussed in claim 34. Anderson Further teaches on Column 6, Lines 3-15 that the non-image information can also include a sound file if a sound clip has been attached to the image file.
- 58: As for Claim 36, Claim 36 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 16.
- 59: As for Claim 48, Giza in view of Petzold in further view of Kutchta et al teaches the claimed invention as discussed in Claim 47. Kutchta et al does not specifically discuss a method for naming data for the raster image and for naming the data for the thumbnail image. Anderson teaches on Column 6, Lines 54-67 and in Figure 10A the use of image tags with a text option (810) so that a user can add data to an image file regarding information such as media types, whether the image is a panoramic image, also information regarding the thumbnail image. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the image tag field convention of Anderson to the file format of Giza in view of Petzold in further view of Kutchta et al in order to allow a user to add data to an image file regarding information such as media types, whether the image is a panoramic image, and information regarding the thumbnail image.
- As for Claim 49, Giza in view of Petzold in view of Kutchta et al in further view of Anderson teaches the claimed invention as discussed in claim 48. Anderson further depicts in Figure 10A and teaches on Column 8, Lines 41-47 a method wherein a digital camera format comprises a format for storing non-image data.
- 61: In regards to Claim 50, Giza in view of Petzold in view of Kutchta et al in further view of Anderson teaches the claimed invention as discussed in claim 49. Anderson further depicts in

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Figure 10A and teaches on Column 8, Lines 41-47 that the non-image data can be comprised of a time-date stamp (800). Anderson teaches on Column 6, Lines 54-67 that a user can add data to an image file regarding information such as media types or (types of application programs). Anderson further teaches the use of image tags with a text option (810) so that a user can add data to an image file of any user desired text, such as ownership information.

- 62: In regards to Claim 51, Giza in view of Petzold in view of Kutchta et al in further view of Anderson teaches the claimed invention as discussed in claim 49. Anderson Further teaches on Column 6, Lines 3-15 that the non-image information can also include a sound file if a sound clip has been attached to the image file.
- As for Claim 52, Giza in view of Petzold in view of Kutchta et al in further view of Anderson teaches the claimed invention as discussed in claim 37. Anderson Further teaches on Column 1, Lines 42-56 that after a digital camera processor processes and compresses raw image data into JPEG image files, the processor stores the JPEG image files into an internal memory or on an external memory card.
- 64: As for Claim 63, Claim 63 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 12.
- 65: As for Claim 64, Claim 64 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 13.
- 66: As for Claim 65, Claim 65 is considered substantively equivalent to Claim 14.
- As for Claim 66, Giza in view of Petzold in view of Kutchta et al in further view of Anderson teaches the claimed invention as discussed in claim 65. Anderson Further teaches on Column 6, Lines 3-15 that the non-image information can also include a sound file if a sound clip has been attached to the image file.

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As for Claim 67, Giza in view of Petzold in view of Kutchta et al in further view of Anderson teaches the claimed invention as discussed in claim 65. Anderson Further teaches on Column 1, Lines 42-56 that after a digital camera processor processes and compresses raw image data into JPEG image files, the processor stores the JPEG image files into an internal memory or on an external memory card.

#### Allowable Subject Matter

69: Claim 69 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

### Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James M Hannett whose telephone number is 703-305-7880. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:00 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 703-305-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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James M. Hannett Examiner Art Unit 2612

JMH April 6, 2004

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